

LEAD-BASED PAINT: SAFE WORK PRACTICES

This describes the safe work practice requirements established by the new lead-based paint regulation. It covers work practices that must be conducted during lead hazard reduction work.

- ❑ It covers:
 - How to protect occupants during such work;
 - How to prepare the worksite;
 - Work methods that are prohibited;
 - How to clean up the work site; and
 - When exemptions are made.

OCCUPANT PROTECTION

- ❑ Appropriate actions must be taken to protect occupants from lead-based paint hazards associated with lead hazard reduction activities.
 - Occupants may not enter the work site during lead hazard reduction activities. Reentry is permitted only after lead hazard reduction activities are completed and the dwelling has passed a clearance examination.
 - Occupants of the unit must be temporarily relocated to a suitable unit that is decent, safe, sanitary, and free of lead-based paint hazards during lead hazard reduction activities. Relocation must be done before lead hazard reduction activities begin.
 - Property owners must protect occupants' belongings from lead contamination during lead hazard reduction activities by relocating or covering and sealing them and ensure that the worksite is secured against entry during non-working hours until the unit passes a clearance examination.

Under certain conditions, occupant relocation is not required: These conditions are described below:

- | |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">❑ Treatment will not disturb lead-based paint or lead-contaminated dust.❑ Treatment of the interior will be completed within one period in eight daytime hours, the site will be contained, and the work will not create other safety, health, or environmental hazards.❑ Only the building's exterior is treated; the windows, doors, ventilation intakes, and other openings near the work site are sealed during hazard reduction activities and cleaned afterward; and a lead-free entry is provided.❑ Treatment will be completed within five calendar days; the work area is sealed; at the end of each day, the area within 10 feet of the containment area is cleaned of debris; at the end of each day, occupants have safe access to sleeping areas, bathroom, and kitchen facilities; and treatment does not create other safety, health, or environmental hazards. |
|---|

WORK SITE PREPARATION AND CONTAINMENT

- ❑ The work site for lead hazard reduction activities must be prepared to prevent the release of lead dust and debris.
 - Workers must use practices that minimize the spread of lead dust, paint chips, soil, and debris.
 - Warning signs are required at each entry to a room where lead hazard reduction activities are conducted when occupants are present; at the main and secondary entryways to a building from which occupants have been relocated; and at exterior work sites at a size and type readable from 20 feet (six meters) from the edge of the work site. Signs need to be in the occupants' primary language to the extent practicable.

PROHIBITED METHODS

- ❑ The methods shown below may not be used at any time for work on surfaces known or suspected to contain lead-based paint.

PROHIBITED METHODS OF PAINT REMOVAL

- ❑ Open flame burning or torching.
- ❑ Machine sanding or grinding without a high-efficiency particulate air (HEPA) local exhaust control.
- ❑ Abrasive blasting or sandblasting without HEPA local exhaust control.
- ❑ Heat guns operating above 1,100 degrees Fahrenheit, or those that operate high enough to char the paint.
- ❑ Dry sanding or dry scraping.

Note: Four exceptions to this prohibition are:

 - (1) dry scraping in conjunction with heat guns;
 - (2) dry scraping within 1.0 ft (0.20 m.) of electrical outlets;
 - (3) treating deteriorated paint spots that total no more than 2 ft.² (0.2m²) in any one interior room or space; or
 - (4) treating deteriorated pain spots that total no more than 20 ft.² (2.0 m²) on exterior surfaces.
- ❑ Paint stripping in a poorly ventilated space using a volatile stripper that is a hazardous substance in accordance with regulations of the Consumer Product Safety Commission at 16 CFR 1500.3, and/or a hazardous chemical in accordance with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration at 29 CFS 1010.1200 or 1926.59, as applicable to the work.

Note: Methylene chloride paint strippers may cause cancer and should be avoided. Use of these strippers is prohibited by some jurisdictions.

WORK SITE CLEANUP

- ❑ Work site cleanup removes dust and debris from the work area. Good cleanup is critical to passing clearance and leaving the unit safe for rehabilitation.
- ❑ Work site cleanup must be done using methods, products, and devices that are successful in cleaning lead-contaminated dust, such as vacuum cleaners with HEPA filters or equivalent equipment, and household or lead-specific detergents or equivalent products.

SAFE WORK PRACTICE EXEMPTIONS

- ❑ Safe work practices are not required:
 - If paint has been tested and found to be lead-free; or
 - If maintenance or lead hazard reduction activities disturb a total surface area that is less than the following standards:
 - 20 ft.² (2 m²) on exterior surfaces;
 - 2 ft.² (0.2m²) in any one interior room or space; or
 - 10 percent of the total surface area on an interior or exterior type of component with a small surface area like window sills, baseboards, and trim.

LEAD HAZARD REDUCTIONS: CLEARANCE

- ❑ **Clearance.** A clearance examination involves a visual assessment and dust testing to determine if the unit is safe for occupancy.
- ❑ Clearance must be performed by a certified risk assessor, certified lead-based paint inspector, or clearance technician. In cases where a grantee or property owner uses in-house employees to perform lead hazard reduction work, in-house employees may conduct both lead hazard reduction activities and clearance, as long as the same employees do not conduct both. If an outside party is hired, the parties conducting the lead hazard reduction activities and clearance must be independent of each other.
- ❑ **Exemption.** Clearance is not required:
 - If maintenance or a lead hazard reduction activity at a work site does not disturb painted surfaces; or
 - If the total area disturbed does not exceed the following:
 - 20 ft.² (2 m²) on exterior surfaces;
 - 2 ft.² (0.2 m²) in any one interior room or space; or
 - 10 percent of the total surface area on an interior or exterior type of component with a small surface area like window sills, baseboards, and trim.
- ❑ **Clearance Standards.** If the test results equal or exceed the designated standards, the dwelling unit, work site, or common area fails the clearance examination. The clearance standards are listed in below:

LEAD CLEARANCE STANDARDS [24 CFS 35.1320(B)(2)]

	Floors (µg/ft. ²)	Interior Window Sills (µg/ft. ²)	Window Troughs (µg/ft. ²)
Lead in Dust (as measured By a dust wipe sample)	40	250	800

- ❑ **Report.** The clearance examiner must prepare a clearance report. The cost of the first exam will be assumed by the City of Rockford in the form of a grant. If additional exams are required, that cost must be assumed by the buyer or seller.